

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

No new matter is added. The present application (e.g., page 3, lines 5-18) indicates that the dip coated layer is over the entire deposition region, wherein the deposition region is composed of the first end region, the intermediate region, and the second end region.

For the Form PTO-1449 submitted on December 19, 2001, the Examiner initialed every document citation except for the three applications (listed under "Other Documents"), where the Examiner crossed out the three citations and noted "No publn dates." In response, applicants are submitting with this Amendment a supplemental Form PTO-1449 which provides the US application publication numbers for the three applications cited in the December 19, 2001 Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to return an initialed copy of the supplemental Form PTO-1449.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 9-14, 17, and 20 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by CH 672564A5 ("Swiss abstract"). This rejection is respectfully traversed because the Swiss abstract fails to anticipate the present claims. According to the Examiner, the Swiss abstract discloses "bus bars having cylindrical shapes (Figure 3) with flat centers and at least two raised areas circumferentially around the center (Figure 2)." While not specifically identified by the Examiner, the "at least two raised areas" appear to correspond to bush (3,3',4,4'). Applicants note that epoxy resin 8 covers bus bars 7 but fails to cover bush (3,3',4,4') because bush (3,3',4,4') is not part of the deposition region. It appears that bus bars 7 is dip coated independently of bush (3,3',4,4') and then bush (3,3',4,4') is positioned over bus bars 7 already coated with epoxy resin 8. Thus, the Swiss abstract fails to anticipate the present claims since bush (3,3',4,4') is not part of the deposition region; consequently, epoxy resin 8 is not over bush (3,3',4,4').

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herbert et al., US Patent 5,683,742 in view of the Swiss abstract. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Swiss abstract is deficient as discussed above. Herbert fails to remedy this deficiency as there is no teaching or suggestion in Herbert to deposit a dip coated layer over a raised

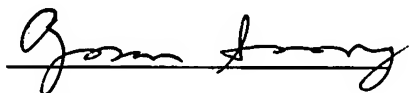
surface portion of a substrate. In fact, in the Action, the Examiner acknowledged that "Herbert fails to teach substrates having the shape claimed."

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position that the dependent claims are unpatentable, but need not at this time specifically address the Examiner's comments regarding these dependent claims since the independent claims are patentable over the cited references and thus the dependent claims are also patentable over the references.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In view of the foregoing, the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-4292, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



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